Application No.: 10/589,538

Attorney Docket No.: 32860-001070/US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for determining a degree of compliance with a performance specification assigned to a medical working practice, the method comprising:

recording and storing, by a data-processing device, data correlated with the medical working practice;

storing, by a test system, test criteria for the data, the test criteria correlated with the performance specification, the performance specification being one of specifications or instructions of a research project, standard operating procedures for medical procedures or treatments, inclusion and exclusion criteria for a clinical study, instructions to a patient or doctor, times or durations for physical activities and examination methods to be complied with;

reading, via the test system, the data stored in the data-processing device; and evaluating, via the test system, the data with the aid of the test criteria and determining the degree of compliance with the performance specification.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: clinical data are collected as the medical working practice, the collection process being assigned a collection protocol as the performance specification.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein: a measurement value for a clinical study is collected from a patient as the medical working practice, and

the test system sends the measurement value as a valid measurement value to a study database if a collection protocol is complied with.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: a knowledge-based system is used as the test system, and

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the performance specification is stored in the form of a rule set in the knowledge-based system.

- 5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the performance specification is stored as a module in the rule set.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method is carried out automatically after each medical working practice.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein: a knowledge-based system is used as the test system, and the performance specification is stored in the form of a rule set in the knowledge-based system.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein: a knowledge-based system is used as the test system, and the performance specification is stored in the form of a rule set in the knowledge-based system.

10 - 11. (Cancelled)

- 12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the method is carried out automatically after each medical working practice.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the method is carried out automatically after each medical working practice.

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14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the method is carried out automatically after each medical working practice.

- 15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the method is carried out automatically after each medical working practice.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and

if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and

if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and

if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and

if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein: if the performance specification is not complied with, a decision is made as to whether it is possible to repeat the working practice and, if so, repetition is requested; and

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if repetition is possible, a corresponding repetition request is made.